



What's New in the City

City of Natchitoches

88th Annual Christmas Festival December 6

December 1, 2014

Volume XIV, Issue 12



The 88th Annual Natchitoches Christmas Festival will take place Saturday, December 6 in downtown Natchitoches. The Natchitoches Historic District Business Association and the City of Natchitoches will usher in the holiday season with children's activities, entertainment, a parade, food vendors, and fireworks. Natchitoches native and acclaimed author of *Steel Magnolias*, Robert Harling, will serve as the Natchitoches Christmas Festival Parade Grand Marshal in honor of the 25th anniversary of the film, while Cole Vosbury will headline entertainment for the day.

The Christmas Festival parade will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the corner of Jefferson Street and University Parkway. The parade will feature floats of reigning Queens including Miss Merry Christmas and the Christmas Belles and local dignitaries, marching bands, dance lines, parade Grand Marshal Robert Harling and Santa Claus. The parade will travel along Jefferson Street to

Front Street, turning left onto Lafayette Street and Second Street, and ending at University Parkway.

Musical entertainment begins at 2:00 p.m. with a performance by Hank Staples and Thunder Creek, followed by headliner Cole Vosbury. Cole Vosbury is a singer-songwriter and musician from Shreveport, Louisiana. Born into a musical family, Cole shot to fame on Season 5 of NBC's *The Voice* with his unique mix of country, blues sound with a background of soul and rock and roll.

At 6:00 p.m., the festivities will be capped off by a spectacular fireworks display over beautiful Cane River Lake and the lighting of thousands of lights. In addition, an electrifying light show will take place on the Church Street Bridge.

Admission to the festival is \$8 for adults (12 years of age and older) and \$5 for children ages 6 to 11. Children under 5 are admitted free to the festival.

All festival vendors inside the gated area will require Vendor Tickets to purchase food and/or merchandise. No cash will be accepted.

Armbands and Festival Vendor Tickets may be purchased day of festival from ticket booths located throughout the Downtown Historic District beginning at 6:30 a.m. Vendor Festival Tickets will also be available at automated ticket machines along the riverbank.

Discount armbands and Festival Vendor Tickets may be purchased in advance at the following area businesses: Bank of Montgomery, City Bank & Trust Company, Exchange Bank, First Federal Bank of Louisiana, La Capitol Federal Credit Union, Mid-South Bank, Sabine State Bank, Brookshire's, Causey's Pharmacy, Hampton Inn & Suites, Super 8 Motel, Neebo Bookstore and McDonald's. Festival Vendor Tickets may also be purchased at Dickens & Co., Georgia's Gift Shop, Kaffie Frederick's, and Beaux & Molly's.

Tickets may be purchased from all ticket booth locations as well as at automated ticket machines on festival day. Tickets may be purchased in advance at any pre-sale armband location as well as at Dickens & Co., Kaffie Frederick's, Georgia's Gift Shop, and Beaux and Molly's on Front Street.

For more information on the 88th Annual Natchitoches Christmas Festival, please visit www.NatchitochesChristmas.com.

Inside this issue:

Christmas Gala	2
Christmas Downriver	2
How Do You Recycle?	3
Evening of Art: Holiday Edition	3
Employee Recognitions	4

Did you know?

- The Holiday Tour of Homes will take place Dec. 10—20 on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.
- Complete schedule of the 88th Annual Festival of Lights available online at www.NatchitochesChristmas.com
- The Santa Claus House will be open nightly Dec. 7—23 from 6:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.
- LifeShare Blood Centers and Be The Match, National Marrow Donor Registry, will hold a series of Bone Marrow Registration Drives Dec. 1—3 in Natchitoches.

26th Annual Christmas Gala December 3—5



The combined talents of the Mrs. H.D. Dear Sr. and Alice E. Dear School of Creative and Performing Arts at Northwestern State University will be on display at the 26th annual Christmas Gala December 3—5 in the A.A. Fredericks Auditorium. Performance times are at 7 p.m. each evening with a 9 p.m. show on Friday, December 5.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased either in advance through the CAPA website, capa.nsula.edu, or at the box office prior to each performance. Northwestern State, BPCC@NSU and Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts students are admitted free with a current student ID.

“We’re very excited about the new option to purchase Christmas Gala tickets online. It’s very easy to do, and you can print out your tickets at home,” said director Patrick Dill. “With nearly 13,000 audience members who attend each year, this will really improve the concert-going experience for the

audience who can now spend less time standing in line either picking up or purchasing their tickets before the show.”

There will also be five performances for area school children at 9:30 a.m. and noon on December 3—4 and at 9:30 a.m. on December 5. Admission for the children’s show is \$3. Those planning to bring groups to the children’s show should make reservations by calling Jane Norman at (318) 357-4483.

Each area of the School of Creative and Performing Arts will be part of the Gala including music, theatre and dance and fine + graphic arts. The Gala will feature the Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony Orchestra, the NSU choirs, Northwestern State Department of Theatre and Dance, the NSU Jazz Orchestra, NSU Rockettes, NSU Percussion Ensemble, the Out-on-a-Limb Improv Troupe, and video and visual art provided by Northwestern State Department of Fine + Graphic Arts.

NPS to Host Annual Christmas Downriver Musicals

Everyone knows that Natchitoches is the place to be this holiday season. If you plan on enjoying this season’s festival of lights, you may want to take advantage of some fun activities provided by Cane River Creole National Historical Park.

On December 13, guitarist Ed Huey will be performing at the Magnolia Plantation overseer’s house between 1:00—2:30 p.m. Ed performs and teaches American Roots Music specializing in early Blues guitar and harmonica styles. His highly interactive sets include Work Songs, Field Hollers, Hambone, Piedmont Blues, Delta Blues, Jug Band, Ho-kum, and Railroad Songs. Ed plays guitar, slide guitar, harmonica, mandolin, washboard, spoons and jug. Magnolia is located at 5549 Hwy 119, Derry, LA

71416.

On December 20, guitarist Jim Pharis will be entertaining visitors at Oakland Plantation between 1:00—2:30 p.m. Besides his own compositions in the country blues vein, Jim has also specialized in finding and arranging acoustic blues gems. These are songs by artist like Bo Carter, Big Bill Broonzy and Oscar “Buddy” Woods. Jim currently lives in the Lafayette area where he plays music, publishes a fingerstyle guitar instructional website and teaches fingerstyle guitar. Visitors will also be encouraged to create an old style Christmas ornament. Oakland is located at 4386 Hwy 494, Natchez, LA 71456.

Both events will feature Christmas crafts and light refreshments.

For more information about any of

Christmas Downriver 2014

All of the events are FREE to the public.

December 13- Christmas crafts and acoustic blues from Ed Huey at the Magnolia Plantation overseer's house 1:00-2:30pm.

December 20- Christmas crafts and acoustic blues from Jim Pharis at Oakland Plantation from 1:00-2:30pm.

For more info call 318 356-8441

these activities please call (318) 356-8111.


“How Do You Recycle?”

In conjunction with America Recycles Day, Keep Natchitoches Beautiful began asking the question, “How Do You Recycle?” in a new campaign. Local residents are encouraged to submit photos for a chance to be featured in a new recycling campaign sponsored by Keep Natchitoches Beautiful and Alliance Compressors.

The purpose of the new “How Do You Recycle” campaign is to get local residents actively involved in recycling efforts throughout the City of Natchitoches and surrounding parish. The campaign will feature local citizens recycling on banners, posters and promotional materials designed to educate the community on proper recycling techniques and recycling services available in Natchitoches.


Residents are asked to submit photographs to Keep Natchitoches Beautiful on Facebook for a chance to be featured in the new ad campaign. To enter, simply like the Keep Natchitoches Beautiful Facebook page (www.facebook.com/KeepNatchitochesBeautiful) and post a photo using #KNBRecycles. A total of three photos will be selected for inclusion in the “How Do You Recycle” campaign, and winners will receive a cash award sponsored by Alliance Compressors. Deadline for entry is December 31, 2014.

For more information on the new “How Do You Recycle” campaign or Keep Natchitoches Beautiful, please call the City of Natchitoches Main Street Office at (318) 352-2746.



Keep Natchitoches Beautiful wants to know...

How Do YOU Recycle?





Tell us how YOU recycle in 2 easy steps:

1. Like the Keep Natchitoches Beautiful Facebook Page
2. Post a pic using #KNBRecycles

Join Keep Natchitoches Beautiful in a new, unique campaign that will feature local citizens recycling! Simply like the Keep Natchitoches Beautiful Facebook page and post a photo of yourself recycling using #KNBRecycles for a chance to be featured in the new “How Do You Recycle” city-wide recycling campaign.

Deadline to enter is December 31, 2014.
For more information, call (318) 352-2746.



An Evening of Art: Holiday Edition



You are cordially invited to join Friends of Louisiana Sports & History (FLASH) and the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum for an evening of painting and fun at “An Evening of Art: Holiday Edition” on Tuesday, December 9, 2014. The fun begins at 6:00 p.m. at the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum located at 800 Front Street.

Artist Lucretia Glorioso will guide participants through the process of painting their very own works of art to take home.

All supplies are included in the \$45 registration fee, \$40 for FLASH members with valid ID card. Light refreshments will be served. Reservations are required and space is limited.

For more information and to register for the event, please contact Lucretia Glorioso at (318) 481-5070 or Joan Edwards at (318) 481-2011.

The City of Natchitoches offices will be closed:

Wednesday December 24 & Thursday, December 25 for the Christmas Holidays & Wednesday, December 31 & Thursday, January 1 for New Year's Holidays

City of Natchitoches

Oldest Permanent
Settlement in the
Louisiana Purchase

P.O. Box 37
700 Second Street
Natchitoches, La. 71458

Phone: 318-352-2772

Fax: 318-357-3829

E-mail:

cityhall@natchitochesla.gov



Employees Recognized for Years of Service

The City of Natchitoches recognized employees for their years of service at an Employee Appreciation Luncheon on Wednesday, November 26. Among those honored were retirees Charles Fuller (Community Development, 25 years), Aubrey Garsee (Utility, 22 years), Ernest LaCour (Utility, 22 years), and Randy Williams (Police, 30 years).

The following employees were recognized for 10 years of service: Fredrick Bernstine (Public Works), Michael Braxton (Public Works), Amy Cox (Police), Tobias Mayrand (Police), Tommy Murchison (City Attorney), Stephen Rachal (Police), Charles Shivers (Fire) and Jeffrey Towson (Police).

The following employees were recognized for 15 years of service: Matt Anderson (Utility), Greg Brundige (Fire), David Cadwallader (Fire), Jason Hoffpauir (Fire), Edd Lee (Purchasing), Keith Scoggins (Fire), Randall Washington (Events Center), and Stan Williams (Police).

Ronald Kennedy (Public Works) was recognized for 20 years of service.

Chief Micky Dove (Police), Assistant Chief Cary Hargrove (Police) and Mark White (Fire) were recognized for 25 years of service.

Bob Hayward (Utility) was recognized for 30 years of service.

A special recognition for 50 years of service was presented to City Marshal Alton Rachal.



Upcoming Holidays & Important Dates

Dec. 1 – Natchitoches Historic District Commission Meeting, 5:00 p.m. at the Arts Center

Dec. 2 – Planning & Zoning Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Arts Center

Dec. 3–5 – NSU Christmas Gala, 7:00 p.m. at the A.A. Fredericks Auditorium. There will also be a 9:00 p.m. show on Friday, Dec. 5.

Dec. 6 – 88th Annual Natchitoches Christmas Festival

7:45 a.m. City of Lights 5K

1:00 p.m. Christmas Festival Parade

2:00 p.m. Hank Staples & Thunder Creek performs

4:00 p.m. Cole Vosbury performs

6:00 p.m. Fireworks

Dec. 7 – Santa Claus House opens to the public. Open nightly 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. through Dec. 23

Dec. 8 – City Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

at the Arts Center

SHS

Dec. 10–20 – Holiday Tour of Homes, 5:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. Tours conducted on Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays (1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.)

Dec. 12 & 13, 19 & 20–Changed by a Baby Boy Play, Arts Center. Show times are 6:00 p.m. on Friday, 2:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m. on Saturday

Dec. 12 & 13, 19 & 20 – Holiday Kids Fest, Downtown Riverbank. Fireworks Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 13–Tri-Centennnial Second Saturday Events:

- Les Amies Arts & Craft Show & Sale, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center
- Natchitoches Christmas Traditions exhibit, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. at the Lemee House
- December Fete De Noel, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. at Fort St. Jean Baptiste

Dec. 15–Airport Commission Meeting, 5:00 p.m. at Natchitoches Regional Airport

Dec. 24–Christmas Eve, City Offices closed

Dec. 25–Christmas Day, City Offices closed

Dec. 27–Fireworks over Cane River Lake, 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 31–New Year's Eve, City Offices Closed. Fireworks over Cane River Lake, 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 1– New Year's Day, City Offices Closed

